My Good Friend

by Nina Valenti
Illustrated by Don Dyen

ISBN-10: 0-328-49915-3
Question of the Week
How do talents make someone unique?

**High Frequency Words**
- morning
- light
- front
- friends
- far
- voice

**Concept Words**
- cane
- chorus
- sunlight
- math
- bothered
- club

**Learning Goals**
- People have different talents.
- Talents make people unique
- Some people use special tools to help them do things.
My name is Sasha. I have a story to tell.

One morning, our teacher told us about a new student. “Her name is Luz,” said Mrs. Ferrara. “She does not see the same way you do.”

Luz has a long cane. It helps her feel things she can’t see.

Luz sat in the front, close to the board. Her desk was far from the window. The sunlight bothered her eyes.
Then another teacher came into our classroom. He gave Luz a computer. It had a special light. The words on the screen looked big.

One day, I asked Luz why she looked sad. “I miss my old school,” she said. “My friends knew what I could and could not do. They knew how to help me.”

Soon Luz felt better about being at our school. We joined the chorus. She has a great voice! Luz also joined the math club. Math is very easy for her. She even helps other kids with it!
Luz and I became good friends. We talk after school. I can tell her anything. We play together. She is a great friend!

Talk About It
1. How is Luz the same as the other students?
2. Why does Sasha think Luz is a good friend?

Write About It
3. On a separate sheet of paper, write what you know about people like Luz who have special needs. How are they like you?

Extend Language
What words do you make when you add -ed and -ing to the verb play? Use each word in a sentence.

Verb Endings: -ed, -ing

Helped and helping are forms of help.

Can you make new words by adding -ed and -ing to the following verbs? Use a sheet of paper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>-ed form</th>
<th>-ing form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>look</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>